

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

This is the TIMES-MIRROR's Public Forum in which all who have anything pertinent, timely and interesting to say, on topics of current interest, may stand and give their independent opinions to the people; the writers being responsible for their own sentiments and

Wants to Know.
Is the Editor of the Times—Sir: I proposed plan of issuing bonds by the for municipal purposes surrounded proper safeguards? I believe all com- the policy of the city owning its buildings in place of paying high . But before we undertake to should ourselves and for our children one hundred thousand dollars indebtedness, we should first ascertain the exact conditions of the obligations we pro- to assume, and know exactly what we are about. Are jobs properly guarded against? Is the expenditure of this large sum sufficiently protected in the proposed me of the Council from the greed of syndicates and rings?
 I am sure should be asked many questions if they are right, and the time before the matter is too short to properly invest- the matter, let the Council postpone decision a month.

PER BONO PUBLICO.

Street-Numbering Dodge.
The Editor of the Times—SIR: Although it seems a petty matter, it is a really large swindle in the aggregate, and the City Council apparently counted on the plunder. The ordinance requires that the City Surveyor shall designate the numbers for householders, and is optional to them to fix how they will be, of sufficient size. The deputy, however, is notifying the citizens, that since houses are numbered, they are to do, and contrary to the ordinance, except for vacant lots; charging them for measuring and ten cents additional to fix numbers. If unpaid, he has no notice of number. This is a systematic fraud on the public, which should be exposed through the City of New York. Please inform me, pending an explanation from their department of Public Works or their deputy S. B. GREENSLADE.

Secure or Not to Cure? That is the Question.
The Editor of the Times—SIR: My

got fighting mad at times when I all the humming we are compelled to sit in the shape of what is termed nature. Now, what is your opinion? The lecture-field on the subject of R.Y. Reform in '67. Of course, I can sult; but the question arises, are commensurate with my outlay of and vision of the world as it is, these maladies. Is it best to do it or for glory—which?

There is so large a proportion of the race in our country determined to prey their species that the humanely-innate are at a loss what to do at times.

It is a way to eliminate this propensity. But it is a long road to travel, and submit to the process. If mankind as ready to improve themselves as are to improve other species of animals, the world would be a very different place. It would need a thorough-going of the defective individuals passing to propagate them. This is the solution to the problem, and the conclusion; that is, the remedies for the evils that "flesh is heir to." It

that most of the so-called dis-
cuss the course of treat-
ment that prevents the
will take the ill that are most fatal,
of the lungs, diseases of the
small kidneys, cancer, cholera, small-
pox and yellow fever. All of these are
contagious; and the same course that
prevent them is the best course to
to remedy them when attacked. This
I will know these things are learned.
This knowledge is not put to as good
it might be. Here comes in the
for argument, as it is doubtful
ever this knowledge is the nat-
the spreading out of the undesirable
There is enough, however, that
is good and the right, at whatever
to collect that since the ques-
tion remains on the face of our mother
Let us do so. F. M. S.

COMPTON-

rious and Educational Notes-
ils of Honor of the Schools.

pendence of THE TIMES.

London, April 21st. At an election held
the 24th inst. at the

Templars, the following named persons elected to the respective offices: T. Miss L. E. Jenkins; W. F. Haden Ward; W. Sec. Mr. D. W. M., Miss M. S. Whaley; W. F. Nelson; Ward; T. Miss M. F. Haden; J. C. Adams; Ward; W. H. S. Abbott. Five members were elected. Rev. J. T. Huff being one of the or.

protracted meeting is in progress at the E. church, conducted by Revs. Galt, E. Green and Ledford.

Following-school excursion to Willmore 1911, followed with a basket picnic, will produce the 1st produce of the M. E. Sun-school of Compton.

Calico Mining Notes.
dated from April 24.]

Silver and gold mill at Sawley's Station April 20th shipped through Wells, and Co's office \$25000 worth of bullion, and at \$6500.

the 17th instant \$25000 worth of bullion were shipped from the Oriental being the result of the first run on

in good working order, and soon be running on second grade of a quality equal to the first.

A fourth interest in the Inevitable has been sold to Dr. J. A. Whit- formerly one of the publishers of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Mr. Whit- 's family is now residing in Los An- geles, but he will shortly bring them out here.

Among men who looked upon our camp with distrust have somewhat changed their opinions, and acknowledge the mines have a brighter prospect than they were wont to view by time. The large quantity of high- ore that averages over \$500 a ton, the immense amount of low-grade ore, the average yield of a ton, are facts which leave a favorable impression on the sturdiest mind.

Santa Monica Items.

A photograph gallery will shortly be opened in the town.

The houses are being put up every day, and the demand for building lots is better than at any time during the past six

number bay has been opened at Santa Monica to supply the great demand for fishing.

Many parties of excursionists have visited the beach.

A beautiful mirage was seen a few days ago at Santa Monica. It resembled an island, and for a time was quite disbelievable.

A crane was quite plentiful on the beach looking well.

They are plenty shot, and make excellent eating, strongly resembling in taste the wild turkeys.

There is a sea wall about the bay, and the authorities furnish a fund of amusement for visitors.

There is a vicinity of Santa Monica with nothing well.

A grand entertainment and ball will be held at Turnerview Hall on the evening of May 12 by Park House Company No. 1.

The entertainments given by the fire department are always admirable, and great preparations are being made to render this a very interesting event.

Very Truly, etc.

From Tinseltown still continued in

county jail, not yet having been paid bail. Her reason for not quitting jail predicts are that she is unable to furnish bail, but that she is engaged to nurse Billy McDowell, the tender, and she is willing to earn an extra penny.—[San Bernardino Leader, April 28.]

Hope said, in his time, and it is as good as over: "A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying in other words that he is wiser to-day than he yesterday."

LOS ANGELES DAILY TIMES.
(County Official Paper.)By TARNELL, CAYSTLE, MAYNES & OTIS.
OFFICE No. 8 TEMPLE STREET.

Publishers' Announcements.

THE LOS ANGELES DAILY TIMES has a regular, permanent, bona-fide circulation very much larger than that of any other daily paper published in Los Angeles, and representing that of all the other daily papers published in the city. This claim we are prepared to substantiate.

FOR ADVERTISING THE TIMES has its own equitable scale of prices, based on circulation, not on the price charged by or paid to other papers.

THE TIMES can be found at the newsstands of the Police and Constable's Office and at the Hotel, San Francisco.

THE TIMES OFFICE is connected with the telephone system of this city, and those desiring to advertise in or subscribe for this paper can do so by this means.

REWARD.—The proprietors of the TIMES will pay a reward of \$10 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any person stealing the TIMES from the doors of its subscribers.

CORRESPONDENCE.—We solicit contributions to our columns. Local affairs and news items are especially desired. Correspondents are asked to submit articles, letters, news items, and other matter, to be published, to the editor of the TIMES, at the office of the paper, at 8 Temple Street, Los Angeles. Our work is guaranteed to be equal to that done in San Francisco.

OUR TRADE WITH MEXICO.

The increasing interest which the people of the United States and of California have in the Mexican trade, and the proposed reciprocity treaty between that country and ours, make the international trade statistics interesting and timely.

The TIMES has heretofore published the leading statistics of this trade, gathered direct from United States Consular reports, and we now reproduce them in another form as compiled by a cotemporary from a Report on the Commercial Relations of the United States, published by the State Department. These statistics cover the years between 1858 and 1882 inclusive. From them it appears that the volume of trade between the two nations has steadily increased. In 1858 the total value of the imports of merchandise from Mexico into the United States was \$1,108,501; in 1882 the imports of merchandise had increased to \$4,461,899. The importation of jute and other grasses has increased in a rapid rate, their value being \$50,173 in 1858, and \$2,061,939 in 1882.

In 1858 the imports of India rubber and gutta percha in various forms were valued at only \$143; in 1882 they were valued at \$184,847. In 1858, hides, skins and furs were imported to the value of \$496,929; in 1882 they were imported to the value of \$1,555,107. The importation of live stock from Mexico commenced in 1872, when the imported animals were valued at \$18,558, while in 1882 the value of live stock imported was \$455,917.

The record of exports shows that in 1858 the exports from the United States to Mexico were valued at \$3,312,825, while in 1882 they amounted in value to \$15,482,582, including \$2,158,077 of foreign merchandise. The increase has been steady on all articles of commerce, but especially noticeable in manufactures of cotton and in iron and steel and their manufactures. For instance, in 1858 the exports of iron, steel and their manufactures were valued at only \$188,214, while in 1882 the value of these exports was \$4,239,712.

The comparative growth of Mexican trade with the United States, Great Britain and France shows in favor of this country. In 1859 the imports from Mexico to the United States were valued at \$1,244,084; to Great Britain \$1,851,747; to France, \$810,600. The exports from the United States to Mexico were valued at \$2,919,742; from Great Britain to Mexico, \$3,150,368, and from France, \$3,338,900.

In 1882 the imports from Mexico to this country were valued at \$5,317,502; from Mexico to Great Britain \$2,879,218, and to France \$1,590,883. During the same year the exports from the United States to Mexico were valued at \$11,711,248; from Great Britain to Mexico they were valued at \$8,202,247, and from France to Mexico \$3,908,140.

This increase of trade in the past, in which the United States has been the steady gainer, indicates very clearly the prospect of a further and more rapid increase when we shall have made a commercial treaty with Mexico which by its terms will foster and encourage the enterprise of American merchants in the Mexican trade.

The proposed reciprocity treaty will come up for consideration by Congress next winter. The people of this Coast, in common with those of the Southern Atlantic section of the Union, are directly interested in the enactment of a favorable treaty between the two nations, and boards of trade and other commercial organizations in the sections most concerned will doubtless make themselves heard on the subject in the form of memorials to Congress at its next December's session.

SHIRKING TAXES.

A northern exchange reports that a property owner in Butte county valued a cow and calf at \$15, two horses \$15 each, one horse \$5, two old sows and five shoats \$10 for the lot, 240 acres of land at 75 cents an acre, and 240 at \$1.25 per acre; and the presumption is that these values were accepted by the assessor. Commenting upon that statement, the San Jose Times says with force and truth:

If such valuations are permitted to pass it is no wonder that some get rich and others are taxed to death. This man values his 480 acres of land an average of one dollar an acre, while he would probably feel insulted if offered less than \$40. That is something like the way in which such business has been done in this country in some instances. How it will be done this year time will show.

It is in this way that the most glaring inequalities in the imposition of taxes come to grow up, and the tax-shirker is allowed to escape his just share of the public burden through the complaisance, if not through the actual connivance, of assessors. These officers should be held to a more rigid accountability. The true rule is the constitutional rule, viz., all taxation shall be equal, and property shall be taxed at its full cash value. If this were done, we venture the assertion that the tax levy could be reduced fifty per cent. in most of the counties of

California. Reform in this matter is demanded in the interests of justice and equity. The power of public opinion should be brought to bear through the press, to the end that honest men, who are too conscientious to list their property below its actual cash value for the purpose of evading the payment of taxes, be no longer compelled to bear public burdens which of right belong to their neighbors, the tax-shirkers.

Another question, pertinent here, requires settlement on a more permanent, sound and uniform basis than that upon which it has rested heretofore. We refer to the interpretation by assessors of the words in the Constitution, "actual cash value."

The State Board of Equalization, in its recent circular to county assessors, expressed the true view, in our opinion, and ably supported it by apt citations from judicial and other authorities in several States. It is that a fair and reasonable interpretation of the words "actual cash value" does not justify the construction heretofore generally put upon them in practice, viz: the actual cash value of the property at forced sale, but that these words mean the cash value of the property when determined by the prevailing and established values of similar property in the vicinity.

The new instructions of the Board, based on this interpretation, will tend to correct the vicious practices which have heretofore prevailed in the assessment of property, and add millions to the tax rolls of the several counties.

We have already noted the fact that Senator Edmunds, in an interview recently, declared that he does not want the Presidency, and Governor Butler, in a letter, says that he (Butler) can't get it. There will be no lack of aspirants and candidates, however, unless ambition is dead in American politics, and we have not heard of its demise. "And what a waste of time and space, after all, is this discussion!" exclaims the Washington Star. "The men most prominently mentioned today for the Presidency may not even be considered possibilities when the time for choosing candidates arrives." This is a fact the truth of which is demonstrated afresh every four years, and yet it is as regularly forgotten. As a rule, the prominence which a Presidential aspirant attains three, two, or even one year in advance of the nominating convention of his party is not an encouraging sign of his ultimate success. This is especially true when it is a boom that has been systematically worked up. The people do not take kindly to candidates who have little inherent strength; they prefer to manufacture their favorite's popularity themselves, rather than have it made to order for them by professional politicians.

A vigilant citizen writes to the TIMES, over the name of "Pro Bono Publico," giving timely warning of the danger of issuing bonds for municipal purposes unless surrounded by proper safeguards to prevent the possibility of jobs. The incurring of a municipal debt of one hundred thousand dollars is a serious venture, and should not be made without due deliberation. A suitable city hall and other city buildings are acknowledged needs in Los Angeles, but the true policy is to enter upon the work of building them only when we see our way clear to the payment of the cost thereof within a reasonable period of time.

Howe Standard Scales!

Portable, Counter, Hay and Railroad Scales. Adopted by U. S. Custom Department, and all the leading railroads of the country. Two thousand three scales manufactured and sold by Howe Standard Scales Co., Agency, corner of Los Angeles and Regency streets, Los Angeles. Tel. 24-123.

NEW Photographic Parlors!

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J. BIRNBAUM, Merchant Tailor,

47 Main St., Under Cosmopolitan Hotel, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

HAS RECEIVED HIS WINTER STOCK OF Overcoats and Winter Suits. Call and see them before giving your orders.

I guarantee to furnish the Latest Styles and Perfect Fit.

EMPLOYMENT.

FOR THOSE WANTING WORK of any kind, male or female. Help furnished free. Send in your order to E. W. DILLON, Room 12, office Building, Los Angeles. Tel. 12-124.

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And Furnishing Goods, at No. 25 Spring Street.

See GOLDEN RULE SIGN, opposite Market street.

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Fire Insurance Co.'s, OF HARTFORD AND NEW YORK.

Combined Assets Exceed Eleven Million Dollars.

A Joint Policy issued by The Companies. Los Angeles Department, 233 Los Angeles St., Arcade Block.

J. T. RICHARDSON, Manager. NILES BROS., Resident Agents. LOS ANGELES, CAL. April 25-120

For Sale. LOVELY HOME, 16 acres, 4 miles east of Downey, 600 fruit trees, grapes, blackberry, etc., all full bearing; house of 8 rooms, water right perfect, charming location. Address E. E. P. O. Box 70, Downey, Cal. April 25-120

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40 Main St., Phillips Block, Old No. 116.

IN Addition to our large and well-assorted stock

DRY GOODS

(We will say nothing about prices, as our patrons are the best judges), we have added one feature to our already extensive business, in the way of

150 Dozen Ladies', Misses' and Children's Hats, Of the very LATEST STYLES, which will be sold at prices never dreamt of in the Southern country of our best.

We would invite the purchasing community to call and examine our

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April 25-120

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A GOOD well cooked meal from 15 cents upwards. Hot lunches always ready. Meals at all hours. Lunches put up on short notice.

ROOMS \$1.50 per week and upwards. Beds 25 and 50 Cents per night. Hot or cold Baths 25 cents.

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SPRING TRADE,

And cordially invite the public to call and look at the NEW STYLES now being introduced by them. They sell as low or LOWER than any other house on the Pacific Coast, and DEFY COMPETITION.

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